CITY OF ROCK ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 3rd Floor,
1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL

6/22/2026 - Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Ashley Harris asked City Clerk Amanda Torres to call the roll.

Present: Alderpersons Glen Evans, Linda Barnes, Jenni Swanson, Dylan Parker, Mark Poulos, and Mayor Ashley Harris.

Absent: Alderperson Randy Hurt.

Staff: City Manager Todd Thompson, Attorney Leslie Day, City Clerk Amanda Torres, and other City Staff.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Harris led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Moment of Silence

Mayor Harris requested a moment of silence. A moment of silence was observed.

5. Vote to Approve Agenda

a.	Motion:	Motion whether or not to approve the agenda.
	RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve the agenda; Alderperson Evans seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Barnes stated that she wished to have item 12g from the Consent Agenda be voted on separately due to her need to recuse herself from the vote on that item.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to amend the agenda to remove item 12g from the Consent Agenda; Alderperson Evans seconded.

Alderperson Barnes recused herself from the vote due to serving on Heart of Hope Ministries's board.

VOTE:

Motion to amend the agenda PASSED on a 5-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt. Recused: Barnes.

VOTE:

Motion to approve the agenda PASSED on a 6-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: Hurt.

Alderperson Hurt arrived at the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

6. Presentations

a. Presentation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for CY 2025.

Hannah Cullerton of Lauterbach & Amen, LLP presented the City's Fiscal Year 2025 audit and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. She noted that the audit process went smoothly despite the City's transition to a new financial software system and commended the Finance Department for its work throughout the year.

The City received an unmodified (clean) audit opinion, the highest level of assurance available, with no internal control findings or audit recommendations. Ms. Cullerton also reported that the City received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 43rd consecutive year.

The presentation included an overview of the City's financial statements, financial position, revenues and expenses, debt obligations, and other required reporting information. Governmental and business-type activities reported increases in net position during 2025. During discussion, staff confirmed that a single federal audit was completed and noted that several state and federal grant reimbursements from 2025 remain outstanding. The audit report will be posted on the City's website following Council review.

7. Special Awards and Recognitions, Oath of Office Ceremony, and Proclamations

a. Presentation of the Annual Historic Preservation Awards.

Diane Oestreich with the Rock Island Preservation Society presented the Annual Historic Preservation Award. A photo was taken of award recipient Martin Bush and Mayor Harris.

8. Public Comment

Mayor Harris asked if anyone in the public wished to speak.

Heather Anderson spoke about the Family Council and Action Council of Birth to Five Illinois.

Jordan Williams spoke about agenda item 14a.

9. Update Rock Island

Starlight Revue
The 70th Annual Starlight Revue continues in Lincoln Park every Tuesday with live music and dancing. This Tuesday, June 23rd, come see Gray Wolf. Next week on Tuesday, June 30th, enjoy the music of Totes McGotes. Concessions open at 5 p.m. with delicious food from the Hy-Vee Grill. The concert starts at 6:30 p.m.

Passport to Preservation
Step into an evening of European-inspired elegance at the Hauberg Estate this Saturday, June 27 at 5:30 p.m. for the signature annual fundraiser, a wine and beer tasting walk called Passport to Preservation.
Seven different countries will be paired with seven appetizers from Augustana Fine Dining with an Italian Bistro after-party catered by Huckleberry's. Stroll the historic gardens, enjoy live music and experience an unforgettable evening supporting the preservation of one of the Quad Cities' most treasured landmarks. For tickets and information, go to https://haubergestate.org/events.

King's Café
Enjoy coffee, conversation and community every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 9 a.m. to noon at the Martin Luther King Community Center, 630 9th Street, from now through August.
King's Café is a place where conversations happen, relationships grow, and community is built—one cup at a time. Stop in for coffee, conversation and a welcoming space to connect with others in your community. Whether you stay for five minutes or an hour, there's a seat for you.

10. Passage of Ordinances & Resolutions

a. An ordinance to install a handicapped parking space at 1916 9th Street. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion to pass the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. An ordinance to install a handicapped parking space at 2725 Karlburg Court. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion to pass the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

c. An ordinance amending Chapter 11, Article X: Municipal Property for Redevelopment and accompanying policy for the purchase and sale of municipal real estate. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion to pass the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

d. An ordinance approving the amended Rivertracks LLC Redevelopment Agreement. (Second Reading)

Motion:	Motion to pass the ordinance, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement subject to minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to pass the ordinance, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderperson Evans seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Community Development Director Miles Brainard clarified that staff would likely be drawing funds from both the North 11th Street and New Downtown TIF districts as the Port TIF district is too new to have established any increment. Alderperson Barnes stated that she would like the North 11th Street TIF district reimbursed once the Port TIF district establishes increment.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

e. A resolution in support of the Illinois America250 Commemoration.

Motion:	Motion to adopt the resolution.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to adopt the resolution; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

11. Ordinances (First Readings)

a. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding an ordinance allowing Eggroll Express to temporarily operate a mobile food unit on the City-owned property south-adjacent to Arts Alley. (First Reading)

Motion:	Motion to approve the request, subject to complying with all mobile food unit license regulations; and consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve the request, subject to complying with all mobile food unit license regulations and the City's food and beverage tax ordinance; and consider, suspend the rules and pass the ordinance; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. Report from the Community Development Department regarding a Special Use Permit request from Mary Gordon for the property at 702 20th Street. (First Reading)

Motion: Motion to approve the request and consider the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to approve the request and consider the ordinance; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

c. Report from the Traffic Engineering Committee regarding a request to install a handicapped parking space at 838 25th Street. (First Reading)

Motion: Motion to consider the ordinance.

RC Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Parker moved to consider, suspend the rules, and pass the ordinance; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

12. Consent Agenda

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by a single motion and subsequent roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless an Alderperson so requests, in which case, the item will be moved from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.

a. Claims for the week of May 8 through May 14 in the amount of $1,028,187.90; Claims for the week of May 15 through May 21 in the amount of $769,217.89; Claims for the week of May 22 through May 28 in the amount of $515,051.66; Claims for the week of May 29 through June 4 in the amount of $1,172,094.48; and Payroll for the weeks of April 27, 2026 through May 10, 2026 in the amount of $1,979,943.00; Payroll for the weeks of May 11, 2026 through May 24, 2026 in the amount of $2,020,455.24.

b. ACH Report for the month of May 2026 in the amount of $2,235,574.31

c. Purchase Card Claims for the period of March 27, 2026 through April 26, 2026 in the amount of

$103,431.28

d. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding a request from the QCCA Expo Center for the outdoor consumption of alcohol on July 3, 2026 from 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for their Fourth of July event.

e. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding a request from the Rock Island Downtown Alliance to close Arts Alley and use the Green Lawn for the annual Red, White, and Boom event on July 3rd, 2026 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

f. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding requests from the Rock Island Downtown Alliance to use sound amplification, close Arts Alley and use the Green Lawn on the second Saturday of each month, beginning in July and ending in October 2026 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for 2nd Saturdays on 2nd Avenue; and a request to waive the sound amplification permit fees for the 2026 2nd Saturdays event series.

g. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding requests from Heart of Hope Ministries to use sound amplification and to close 9th Avenue between 17th & 19th Streets on Saturday, July 18, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the 4th Annual Community Love Fest.

h. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding a request from Revive U LLC to use sound amplification and to close Arts Alley on Friday, August 14, 2026, from 6:45 p.m. until 9 p.m.for their Run Like a Rockstar 5k after party; and a request for the outdoor consumption of alcohol in Arts Alley.

i. Report from the Clerk's Office regarding requests from World of Life Church to use sound amplification and to close 18th St. between 8th Ave and 9th Ave on Sunday, August 16, 2026 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for a block party.

j. Minutes from the June 8, 2026 City Council Meeting.

Motion:	Motion to approve Consent Agenda items a through j.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve Consent Agenda items a through f and h through j; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve Consent Agenda item g; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

Alderperson Barnes recused herself from the vote due to serving on Heart of Hope Ministries's board.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None. Recused: Barnes.

13. Claims/Purchases

a. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #4 to CDM Smith, Chicago, Illinois, for the Domes Project in the amount of $81,151.70.

b. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment #5 to CDM Smith, Chicago, Illinois, for the Domes Project in the amount of $73,147.75.

c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding payment to HR Green, Des Moines, Iowa, for the Generator Project in the amount of $26,444.

d. Report from the Fire Department regarding a payment to Builders Sales & Service Company, Moline, Illinois, for the Central House Mandoor Replacement Systems in the amount of $31,400.

Motion:	Motion to allow claims a through d.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to allow claims a through d; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

e. Report from the Police Department requesting authorization to purchase the renewal of an investigative tool from Cellebrite Inc. in the amount of $10,740.

Motion:	Motion to approve the purchase.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Poulos moved to approve the purchase; Alderperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None.

Absent: None.

14. Contracts/Agreements

a. Report from the Community Development Department regarding a contract for building assessment services with Cordogan Clark.

Motion:	Motion to approve the contract and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Swanson moved to approve the contract and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderperson Evans seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Swanson stated that the Rock Island Public Library has used Cordogan Clark in the past, and that she is happy that the City will be using their services.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

b. Report from the Finance Department regarding an amendment to the Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project (ARPA restricted funds).

Motion:	Motion to approve the amendment and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Healy moved to approve the amendment and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderperson Swanson seconded.

DISCUSSION:

AManager Todd Thompson clarified that the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project increased from $768,000 to over $1,000,000 because the total cost of the project was greater than the funds allocated in the proposed amendment. Alderperson Swanson added that the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project is the only open project that restricted ARPA funds can be used to pay for. She stated that the overall project cost didn't increase, but that more ARPA funds were being allocated to the project as opposed to using the water fund.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

c. Report from the Public Works Department regarding bids for the Forestry Mulching Contract recommending that the bid be awarded to McClintock Trucking and Excavating, Silvis, Illinois, in the amount of $29,600.

Motion:	Motion to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract, subject to minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Swanson moved to award the bid as recommended and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderperson Healy seconded.

Alderperson Parker recused himself due to the nature of his employment.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None. Recused: Parker.

d. Report from the Police Department regarding a one-year agreement with the Rock Island-Milan School District #41 to provide a Police Department School Resource Officer (SRO) at Rock Island High School.

Motion:	Motion to approve the agreement, and authorize the City Manager to execute the document, subject to minor attorney modifications.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Poulos moved to approve the amendment and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor attorney modifications; Alderperson Barnes seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Police Chief Tim McCloud clarified that the school would pay about 70% of the SRO's salary.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

15. Budget/Finance Items

a. Report from the Finance Department regarding a budget adjustment to the MLK Activity Fund (900) in the amount of $15,000.

Motion:	Motion to approve the budget adjustment.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Evans moved to approve the budget adjustment; Alderperson Hurt seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

16. Department Reports

a. Report from the Human Resources Department regarding a grade reclassification for the telecommunicator position.

Motion:	Motion to approve the reclassification and corresponding wage increases.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to approve the reclassification and corresponding wage increases; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

DISCUSSION:

Alderperson Barnes asked about the proposed telecommunicator wage adjustment, how it compares to QComm, and whether it could lead to broader compensation increases for other City employees. Human Resources Director Rob Bagous explained the differences in pay structures, noting that City telecommunicators would remain below QComm at comparable steps but could exceed QComm's top step through merit increases. Chief McCloud stated that staffing shortages were not caused by pay, but by retirements and not being able to complete training. Mr. Bagous recommended a comprehensive compensation study for City employees but noted it would require additional funding. He also explained that union wages are generally fixed by contract, though the telecommunicator adjustments resulted from negotiations prompted by recruitment and retention concerns.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 6-1 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: Barnes. Absent: None.

17. Appointments to Boards/Commissions/Committees

a. Report from the Mayor's Office regarding appointments and a reappointment to the Library Board.

Motion:	Motion to approve the appointments and reappointment as recommended.
RC	Roll Call vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Swanson moved to approve the appointments and reappointment as recommended; Alderperson Poulos seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 roll call vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

18. Other Business/New Business

Alderperson Barnes asked Mayor Harris and City Manager Todd Thompson to forward a proposal for the creation of a citizen-led Financial Planning Task Force. She also stated that she would like staff to engage an independent human resources consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive organizational and workforce assessment.

Alderperson Parker remarked on the popularity of Blue Collar Bagels and thanked the community for supporting them.

Alderperson Swanson warned fellow Council members to be careful about their role in setting strategic goals for the City. She requested a detailed list of all the CIRLF loans issued over the past 20 years. She commended the QC Temps, who performed at Flowers on the River. She shared that QC Arts has placed various structures and murals throughout the community, including at the Rock Island Public Library and encouraged residents to attend their upcoming 8-mile bike tour. She also commended Augustana College's Choir for their performance in Sweden.

Alderperson Evans wished all fathers a belated Happy Father's Day.

Mayor Harris remarked on the Juneteenth celebration in Davenport and commended the Avenir Highsteppers for their performance at the event.

19. Adjourn

a. Motion to adjourn to July 13, 2026.

Motion:	Motion to adjourn.
VV	Voice vote is needed.

MOTION:

Alderperson Hurt moved to adjourn; Alderperson Evans seconded.

VOTE:

Motion PASSED on a 7-0 voice vote. Aye: Evans, Hurt, Barnes, Swanson, Parker, Poulos, Healy. Nay: None. Absent: None.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]